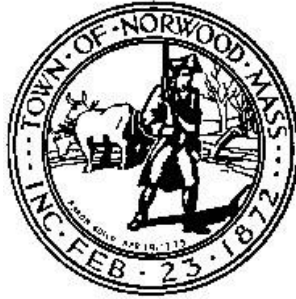


CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STEPHEN WASHBURN, CHAIRMAN
KRISTIN CAPEZIO, VICE CHAIR
CARLY ROCKLEN, TREASURER
JOHN GEAR
HEATHER MILLER
CATHERINE WALSH
PETER BAMBER



**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER/
CONSERVATION AGENT**
HOLLY JONES, MSCI

OFFICE MANAGER/SR. ADMIN. ASST.
LYNN MARCHAND

**Conservation Commission Meeting
August 18, 2021
7:30 P.M.**

**Present: Stephen Washburn -Chairman, Carly Rocklen -Treasurer, John Gear, Heather Miller
Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent.**

The June 16, 2021 meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting software and in person at 275 Norwood Community Media Studio, 245 Nichols St, Norwood MA, Door 22.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Washburn at 7:30 p.m. followed by a roll call.

Public Hearings:

**1. 60 Union St. subdivision Map 15-1 Parcel 5
Notice of Intent No. 251-05XX N2021-08**

Applicant: Lorenzo Quinones Torres Representative: Hooshmand Afshar, Taj Engineering
Project Description: Construction of a four lot subdivision with three new single family homes in the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland and the Riverfront Area of Traphole Brook

The Chair stated they had received a request for continuance from the applicant to the next meeting on September 1st.

**Motion: Mr. Gear made a motion to continue.
Ms. Rocklen seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call vote.**

**2. 570 Boston Providence Turnpike Map 21-4 Parcel 36-A
Notice of Intent No. 251-0527 N2021-09**

Applicant: David Spiegel Representative: Matthew Smith, Norwood Engineering
Project Description: Roadway relocation and construction of an office/retail building with parking lot and in the buffer zone and local riverfront area of an intermittent stream and bordering vegetated wetland in the Fowl Meadow & Ponkapoag Bog ACEC

The Chair stated they had received a request for continuance from the applicant to the next meeting on September 1st.

**Motion: Mr. Gear made a motion to continue.
Ms. Rocklen seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call vote.**

Conservation Commission Business:

1. Willet Pond Dam discussion

Ms. Jones stated that she and the Planning Director, Mr. Paul Halkiotis, have been in discussion with the Neponset River Land Holding Association/NRLHA (the entity that owns Willet Pond and the dam) about jointly applying for a grant in the spring to do necessary safety renovations on the dam. She said members of the Conservation Commission and town staff want to ensure that if town funds are put towards the renovations then public access be granted for Norwood residents. Ms. Jones stated that she spoke with Jim Kane of NRLHA who said he would be willing to work with the town to provide water access but that the only significant land on Willet Pond that the organization owns is the dam itself. Discussion was had regarding the 99 years water access lease NRLHA had with the friends group and he was willing to open up lease negotiations to include resident access if the town could find a way to provide land access to the pond.

General Manager, Tony Mazzucco underscored Ms. Jones' summary emphasizing unrestricted water use rights since the Town would be seeking the grant. Ms. Jones added that she hoped that Mr. Washburn and Mr. Bamber could work on possibly acquiring land or access through land in coalition with her and the Mr. Mazzucco.

Mr. Gear expressed concerns related to a previous renovation where there was no consideration for residents, the length of the project, nor traffic and hoped that this time the Town would get a benefit from it. Ms. Rocklen said she could understand some rules regarding usage of the water in order to protect it.

Ms. Jones and Ms. Washburn expressed the safety importance of taking care of the dam.

2. Saint Street Concept Plan update and discussion

Ms. Jones reviewed the Norwood Riverfront Park Final Concept plan developed by consultants and gave a visual presentation on the screen. She said the property is owned by the Conservation Commission and was purchased in 2019 using Community Preservation Act funds. There have been 3 meetings with the Selectmen and one outdoor "show and tell" meeting at the site with an average of 25 residents in attendance at each one and 45 responses to the online survey of what residents would like to see. Ms. Jones reviewed the details with the Commission who asked questions and provided feedback.

3. Orchard/permaculture food forest updates and planning

Ms. Jones showed the Commission a visual of the Endean Park food forest concept; an edible landscape that mimics a natural forest. She announced that the shed had arrived today and that the Eagle Scout had finished the information kiosk. The Commission and Ms. Jones discussed the canopy, stormwater, collaboration with other Depts/Boards/entities.

4. Trails and land update:

Ms. Jones said another successful Eagle Scout project by Ryan Larson had been completed; kiosk at Endean off Mylod Street. Mr. Joe Greeley touched on Will Doyle's project at Father Mac's. He and Mr. Washburn praised those involved and expressed their appreciation to the Scouts, their troops, their families, other youth in the community, and the Trails Committee.

5. CPC report

- **Updates to the CPC needs assessment**

Ms. Jones said that the CPC liaison, Ms. Catherine Walsh, had sent a request regarding updating the Commission's suggestions for projects and acquisitions. She reviewed the 2018 letter submitted by the Commission and the Board provided comments:

- Purchase all or part of the property on Morse St.
Ms. Jones said the first one had been accomplished.
- Purchase Cofsky Farm at 820 Neponset St. (21 acres)
Discussion was had regarding Cofsky Farm, they viewed the property on GIS, and the Commission agreed it should be kept on the list.
- Installation of recreational play area at Alevizos property
The Commission kept it on the list.
- Add some walking Trails on Conservation property
University Ave parcel being accessible with a design trail present
Trail around Ellis Pond
Access to Lower Pond via the small access strip on the other side of Alevizos
- Deed restrict some of our property, i.e. Ellis Pond
- Survey and bound conservation properties

The Commission brainstormed and discussed several ideas for CPA projects.

6. Norwood Day

Ms. Jones gave a brief update stating that Norwood Day is a month from today and the Conservation booth will be next to the Trails Committee. She and Ms. Capezio will be working on the activity planning. Discussion was had regarding brochures and activities.

7. Correspondence

Ms. Jones said they received a notice of the yearly operation plan from the Airport for their vegetation maintenance plan to be presented at the September 15th meeting when they will have an NOI before the Commission.
She updated the Commission on the beaver related correspondence and her responses clarifying the beaver dam removal process.

8. MACC Virtual Fall Meeting announcement

Ms. Jones said the MACC virtual fall meeting would be on October 19, 20, 21, & 23. She encouraged members to take the training program for the Fundamentals of Conservation (8 classes of the basics with a certificate at the end of the classes).

9. Minutes: No Minutes

Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. Gear made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Rocklen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40 p.m.
Next virtual meeting: September 1st at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lynn Marchand